

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 IO-10

SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 L-02 H-02 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /087 W
----- 072341

R 241002Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6954

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 0692

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, IS, JO

SUBJ: POSSIBLE REOPENING OF ARAB BANK ON WEST BANK

REF: JERUSALEM 381

1. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH EAST JERUSALEM ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUURCE WE HAVE LEARNED THAT ISRAELI REPLY ON REOPENING OF ARAB BANK WAS GIVEN TO ARAB (WEST BANK) NEGOTIATORS SHORTLY AFTER CONVERSATIONS REPORTED REFTEL. MARCH 18 STORY IN ISRAELI-SUPPORTED ARABIC DAILY AL ANBA ALSO REPORTED "POSITIVE" GOI ANSWER. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT ISRALIS ACCEPTED NUMBER OF ARAB COUNTERPROPOSALS BUT WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO LEARN DETAILS OF GOI RESPONSE.

2. ON MARCH 20 OUR SOURCE TOLD US AMMAN HAD REJECTED ISRAELI RESPONSE AND THAT IT NOW APPEARED PROSPECT FOR REOPENING OF BANK NOT GOOD. THIS IN EFFECT CONFIRMED BY STORY IN EAST JERUSALEM ARABIC DAILY AL QUDS SAME DAY REPORTING ARAB BANK ANNOUNCEMENT IN AMMAN, AUTHORIZED BY CHAIRMAN OF BANK'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ABDEL MAJID SHOUMAN, DENYING NEWS REPORTS THAT WEST
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BANK BRANCES TO BE REOPENED.

3. COMMENT. SINCE INDICATIONS ARE THAT ISRAELI RESPONSE WAS
RELATIVELY FAVORABLE TO ARAB POSITION, WOULD APPEAR FROM THIS
END THAT GOJ HAS DECIDED THAT, ALMOST REGARDLESS OF TERMS, NOW
IS NOT TIME IT WISHES TO HAVE WEST BANK BRANCES OF ARAB BANK
REOPEN. EMBASSY AMMAN IN BETTER POSITION COMMENT.
DAY

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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